



## FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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*For Immediate Release*

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January 10, 2008

PSA-005

# Master Gardeners Give Insight on Invasive Plants

An invasive plant infestation is like a slow motion explosion, which, if left unchecked, may severely alter a site's natural, economic, aesthetic, and other cultural values. This region, like others across the nation, is battling invasive plants that threaten our native ecosystems. In response, Green Spring Gardens' Master Gardeners are offering an invasive plant education program at Green Spring Gardens on Friday January 18, 2008 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Participants will discover which ornamental plants are classified as "dangerous" and how to replace them with plants that support wildlife and create the landscape effect they desire.

Invasive plants are a major threat. Because of their aggressive growth and lack of natural enemies in our region, these species can be highly destructive and difficult to control. These invaders compete with native plants and animals in many ways: occupying space, changing the structure of the plant community and animal habitat, eliminating favored foods and causing physical and chemical alterations to the soil.

Admission to the class is \$12 per person and due to limited space, advanced registration is highly recommended. For more information or to register, call 703-642-5713.

Green Spring Gardens is located at 4603 Green Spring Rd. in Alexandria.

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